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BADGER
™
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RON LIM 88 + S. GRAINGER

WHO ARE THESE GUYS, ANYWAY?

The Badger is **Norbert Sykes**, a Vietnam veteran suffering from an extremely rare multiple personality disorder, which has its origins in childhood trauma. Seven great personalities in one. The personality most frequently inhabited by Norbert, indeed almost *exclusively preferred,* is the Badger, a self-styled crime fighter who rides the highways and by-ways of America, meting out bloody justice to jaywalkers, ticket scalpers, indifferent teenaged fast food clerks, in fact, *any damn body he feels like because he's CRAZY!*

Badger is an expert at hand-to-hand combat. He began his training in Shorin-ryu but has since gone on to master dozens of obscure, esoteric, arcane, not to mention abstruse martial arts, the likes of which you seldom hear about.

He can also talk to the animals — just like Dr. Doolittle, or Lorne Greene. Only Badger gets better results than Lorne Greene.

Badger lives with **Ham the Weather Wizard** in a castle south of Barneveld, Wisconsin. Ham and Badger met while both were inmates at a state mental hospital. Through cunning and chicanery, Ham has amassed a considerable fortune.

Don't miss the **Badger/Nexus** six-issue crossover mini-epic continuing in **Nexus** #49. On sale now!

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A FIRST COMICS PUBLISHING PRODUCTION

DAISY, I ADMIT YOU'VE MADE REMARKABLE PROGRESS WITH NORBERT. BUT THE FACT REMAINS, HE STILL HAS PSYCHOTIC EPISODES... HE'S STILL FIXATED ON THIS BADGER PERSONNA...
DR. BOR, IT COULD BE WORSE. WE'VE VIRTUALLY ELIMINATED THE OTHER SIX PERSONALITIES, AND THE BADGER REALLY IS NORBERT. HE FINDS IT EASIER TO DEAL WITH REALITY THAT WAY.
MENDOTA MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY
WELL WHO AM I TO ARGUE WITH SUCCESS? THANKS FOR KEEPING ME INFORMED.
I HAD TO COME OUT HERE ANYWAY. I'M PRESENTING A PAPER ON NORBERT AT THE INTERNATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SEMINAR NEXT MONTH. THANKS FOR YOUR TIME, DR. BOR...
HOLD ON. I'LL WALK YOU TO YOUR CAR.
THAT'S NOT NECESSARY.
WE'VE HAD SOME INCIDENTS... NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS...
I CAN HANDLE MYSELF, THANKS TO NORBERT'S INSTRUCTION.
WE'D HAVE BETTER SECURITY AROUND HERE IF THE LEGISLATURE WOULD THROW US A BONE... WELL, THAT'S NOT YOUR PROBLEM...

MENDOTA MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY
OKAY, BE COOL... BE COOL... HERE COMES A REAL GINCHY CHICK...
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO TO HER?
BE COOL! BE COOL! HERE SHE COMES!
HIYA, LADY! MIND IF WE WALK WITH YOU?
YES!
GRAB HER!
WHOOPA-DEE-DING-DONG! HERE WE GO!
QUICK! GET HER IN THE CAR!

BE COOL! NOBODY SAW US!
OH, YEAH? HERE COMES A PENGUIN!
Sister Twyster
OH, MANNN-- LOOK, LADY--
BADGER
MIKE BARON SCRIPTURE
BILL OAKLEY SCRIBE
RON LIM ILLUMINATIONS
RAY MURTAUGH TINCTURE
SAM GRAINGER INKTURE
RICK OLIVER FINAL JUDGMENT

SCHWEINHUNDT!
WOP
OKAY, SISTER, I NEVER HURT A NUN BEFORE--
UNDT YOU WON'T HURT ONE NOW, YOU LITTLE TURD.
UNGH!

CRAP...
THE LORD JESUS CHRIST FORGIVES YOU, YOU LITTLE TURD.
UK.
P-P-PLEASE... OH, GOD--PLEASE DON'T HURT ME...
JA--YOU PRAY TO HIM NOW, PUNK...
DROP YOUR PANTZ--VE MAKE A A LITTLE ADJUST-MENT UNDT ZEN YOU YILL BE A GUT LITTLE BOY, JA?
NO! PLEASE!

PLEASE, SISTER-- LET HIM GO.
LET HIM GO?! ZO HE RAPE SOME OTHER POOR GIRL?
NOT ZIS TIME.
YAAHHHH!!
ACH! I HAFF MADE A MESS OF SINGS... YOU HAFF AN AUTOMO-BILE?
OVER THERE.
JA! DOT PAIR VON'T BE BOZERING ANY MORE YOUNG GIRLS! HA HA HA!
SISTER, ARE YOU REALLY A NUN? OR DID YOU WALK AWAY FROM THE HOSPITAL?
JA! YOU SINK I'M VUN OF ZOSE CRAZIES? I AM SISTER TWISTER-- HANDMAIDENS OF ZA ZACRED BLUDT-- PARA-GUAY. I HAFF TRAVELLED TO WIZCONZIN TO FIND SOMEONE TO WHOM I OWE MORE THAN I CAN REPAY.
I DON'T BELIEVE I'VE HEARD OF THE HANDMAIDENS OF THE SACRED BLOOD.
ARE YOU CATHOLIC?
EPISCOPALIAN, AND NOT VERY.
JA, JA. AGNOZTIC.

I DO HOPE YOU'RE NOT EASILY SHOCKED, SISTER...
NEIN.
I DIDN'T THINK SO.
EXCUSE ME, HAM?
ZOUNDS, MADAME! CAN'T YOU SEE I'M OCCUPIED?
HAM, I'M SORRY. IT'S IMPORTANT. I'D LIKE TO HAVE AN OVERNIGHT GUEST.
OF COURSE YOU CAN HAVE AN OVERNIGHT GUEST! WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS IS? A CONVENT? DON'T DISTURB ME. THESE ARE DELICATE MATTERS.
I THOUGHT I'D BETTER ASK BECAUSE SHE'S A NUN.
A NUN? A CABALISTIC JOANIE-COME-LATELY NAY-SAYER?
UNDER MY ROOF? EGAD, MADAME!
I'D BETTER SEE THIS WITCH FOR MYSELF!
BE POLITE!

OH, HI, SISTER. WANT A BREW?
WHAT IS BREW?
A BEER!
JA! DO YOU HAFF A GUT BAVARIAN STOUT?
THIS IS WISCONSIN--THE BEER CAPITAL OF THE WORLD! SEE? IT SAYS SO RIGHT ON THIS LABEL!
CAPITAL
SPATEN BRAU
BEER
ACH! ZA BAVARIANS MAKE ZA BEST BEER IN ZA VORLD! VE MAY HAFF LOST ZA VAR, BUT VE STILL MAKE ZA BEST BEER!
TRY IT. IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, I'LL GET YOU A SPATEN.
GIFF IT HERE.
;GLUG GLUG GLUG;
ACH, JA! DAT ISS A GUT BEER! ;URRRP; A VERY GUT BEER!
BAM

WHERE IS THE NUN?
HERE I AM.
SHE SAVED ME FROM MUGGERS.
REALLY?
YOU'VE BEEN A VERY NAUGHTY GIRL...
UNDT YOU, HERR HAM, HAFF BEEN A VERY BAD BOY.
HA HA HA!

IN FACT, SISTER, CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG, YOU HAVE NOT ALWAYS BEEN A WOMAN!
ZAT ISS TRUE, HERR HAM. BEFORE I BECAME SISTER TWYSTER, I VAS DIETER STREIFF, A GUT CHERMAN SOLDIER...
I VAS OBERSTURMBANN-FUHRER STREIFF OF ZA SS. JA-- I VAS VUN OF ZA BEST-- I KILLED UNDT TORTURED MY VAY ACROSS EUROPE... BUT ZAT ISS ALL BEHINDT ME NOW.
HOW ISS IT, YOU ARE ASKING, ZAT I STAND BEFORE YOU TODAY A SISTER OF ZA HAND-MAIDENS OF ZA ZACRED BLUDT, VUN OF GOTT'S DAUGHTERS IN CHRIST?
I VAS IN PARIS AT ZA END, INTERRO-GATING A CATHOLIC PRIEST. FATHER ALLIOT...
;GLUG GLUG;
HE VAS AN INSPIRATIONAL MAN, HERR FATHER ALLIOT... ANUZZER BEER IFF YOU PLEASE.
HE GAVE ME ZA FREEDOM TO SEE SINGS CLEARLY AND ZA COURAGE TO BE MYSELF.

FROM ZA NAZIS IN BRAZIL I STEAL $5 MILLION. ZIS I SEEK TO GIVE TO VICTIMS OF ZA SS PARIS BUREAU. ISS KIND OF YOU TO LET ME STAY... BUT I MUST VARN YOU-- ZA NAZIS HAFF PUT A MAN ON MY TRAIL...
SISTER, YOU'RE A STAND-UP DUDE. I'LL HELP YOU FIND THOSE TORTURE VICTIMS.
ZA ISRAELIS MAY ALSO HAFF GOT VIND UFF ME...
IF ZA ISRAELIS FIND ME, I WILL NOT FIGHT ZEM...
I'LL KEEP 'EM OFF YOUR HOLY ASS AS LONG AS YOU'RE IN WISCONSIN.
DANKE SCHÖN.
LATER.
I'M NOT INTRUDING, HERR HAM?
NOT AT ALL, SISTER. COME IN.
NOT SO DIFFERENT FROM SS HQ. ZA FURHER VAS MOST INTERESTED IN ZA OCCULT, YOU KNOW...
YES... IT'S REALLY QUITE MILD THESE DAYS..A FEW MINOR SACRIFICES TO DIVINE COMMODITY TRENDS ...THIS BUSINESS WITH THE CRASH THREW A MONKEY WRENCH INTO EVERYTHING...
YOUR MAN ZA BADGER... HE ISS ZAT RARE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS TOTALLY UNPREDICTABLE...
REGRETTABLY, YES. BUT A GOOD MAN.

FIRST PERSON SINGULAR

Random Remarks by the Editor

A MODEST PROPOSAL...

Hi. I'm Larry. Trust me.

I know. There's always a certain apprehension when a new name shows up on the masthead. But let me assure you, as First's new managing editor, my plans are modest. My mission is simply to take all the good will and respect this company has built up over the years and really do something constructive with it.

One of the new projects I'm most proud of is **U.S. Flagg and the Ranger Friends**, a Saturday morning cartoon series debuting this fall. All your favorites will be there — Reuben, Mandy, their black pal Jules — in weekly animated adventures that also teach the value of cooperation and clean living, much as **Howard Chaykin** himself no doubt would have wanted it had he had any say in the matter.

The sex had to be eliminated, of course, and the violence has been toned down considerably except for some weapons in the product line. Also, references to the Plex, Mark Thrust, Bob Violence and Q-USA were deleted at the request of the network, which rightly criticized them as unfair attacks on U.S. broadcasting and industry in general.

But don't worry about Raul. He's back, and you'll be delighted with improvements we've made. After media psychologists determined the original Raul might frighten children (unaccustomed, as they are, to talking animals which in any way resemble real animals), the fluent feline was pleasingly transformed through a truly remarkable process known as **AnimanthropomorFX**. His new body is three times larger — his head six times and his eyes eight times — but he is still the same old Raul. Except now he walks upright, has a weight problem and wears a vest... and his name is Ralphy.

We'll be incorporating these changes back into the graphic spinoff, just as soon as some creative differences can be legally quashed. Barring unforeseen injunctions, **Hanna-Barbera's American Flagg** #1 ships in September.

Other exciting developments:

Badger gains a son and a sidekick starting with #40. We think you'll love **Li'l Badger**. Fathered by Big Badger back in 'Nam, he's a feisty ninjfant who, as it turns out, is also psychotic. **Mike Baron** has been unreceptive to this change thus far, so we've taken the liberty of dropping Li'l Badger and his precocious remarks into the proofs after Baron has already approved them.

"Look for Whisper to mess up her life in L.A. and move to the Midwest, Minneapolis perhaps, where she'll change her name to Molly Tyler Moore."

With national SAT scores continuing to drop, we had no choice but to simplify the world of **Nexus**. But while most of the characters, dialogue and plot will be gone, there be more of Nexus to enjoy than ever. I don't want to give away the secret, but here's a little hint: cloning. Look for **Nex-men** #1 by January.

Also, look for **Whisper/Diane Young** to mess up her life in L.A. and move to the Midwest, Minneapolis perhaps, where she'll change her name to Molly Tyler Moore. And, if you loved them separately, you'll love **Lone Wolf** and **Dreadstar**, a thrice-weekly chop and blockbuster beginning in August. You'll still be able to see little Daigoro daily and Sundays in the upcoming **Li'l Badger 'n' Cub** comic strip.

Look out Marvel and D.C.: It's clobbering time.

—Larry Doyle

FIRST IN JUNE

Lone Wolf and Cub #14: By **Kazuo Koike** and **Goseki Kojima**. Cover painting by **Bill Sienkiewicz.**

Badger #40: New regular artist **Ron Lim** joins creator/writer **Mike Baron.**

Nexus #49: The Nexus/Badger crossover continues. By **Mike Baron** and **Paul Smith.**

Grimjack #51: A new storyline begins. By **John Ostrander** and **Tom Mandrake.**

Whisper #17: By **Steven Grant** and **Spyder.**

Howard Chaykin's American Flagg! #6: By **Howard Chaykin** and company. Reader discretion advised.

Crossroads #4: Featuring Grimjack and Judah Maccabee. By **Roger Salick**, and **Shawn McManus.**

Elric: Bane of the Black Sword #2: By **Roy Thomas, Mark Pacella**, and **Nicholas Koenig.**

Hawkmoon: The Runestaff #3: By **Roger Salick** and **Rafael Kayanan.**

Sable #8: By **Roger Salick, Robb Phipps**, and **Doug Hazlewood.**

WWIII

BEGINS IN SEPTEMBER

TEAM Yankee™

six weekly issues
coming in September

FIRST COMICS

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HE ISS A KILLER, HERR BADGER.
ZOUNDS. I'VE LOST TRACK OF THE BODY COUNT. BUT NEVER CLOSE TO HOME!
I SHALL NEED A GUT KILLER IF I AM TO DELIVER ZA MONEY TO ZA VICTIMS...
HE'S ALL YOURS. PLEASE RETURN HIM IN ONE PIECE.
VHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I WAS PREPARING TO DIVINE TRENDS IN BUSINESS SOFTWARE THROUGH THE RITUAL SACRIFICE OF AT&T'S CONSUMER MEMORY BANKS. WILL YOU ASSIST ME?
WISS PLEASURE!
IT'S MORE HUMANE THAN ANIMAL SACRIFICES AND INFINITELY MORE REWARDING!
MORNING.
I'M SORRY, SISTER--MR. KUGEL HASN'T BEEN HERE FOR OVER A YEAR. I BELIEVE HE FOUND A JOB ON A FARM SOMEWHERE ...I WISH I COULD BE MORE HELPFUL.
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
ISS ALL RIGHT. I VILL SPEAK TO YOUR GUESTS NOW.
I WISH WE HAD A FEW MORE LIKE YOU.
ZO. VHAT ISS YOUR PROBLEM?
OH, MANNN... A PENGUIN. GO ON, SISTER. YOU CAN'T HELP ME.

I DON'T VANT TO HELP YOU, YOU LITTLE TURD! I'M VORKING ON AN ARTICLE FOR DER STERN!
NOW -- VHAT ISS DER PROBLEM?!
OH, MANN... MY OLD LADY'S GOT A NEW BOYFRIEND EVERY NIGHT. ME AND ELMO WAS OUT DRINKING SOME WINE AN' ELMO GOT SOME DUST...
MAN, IT'S ALL MESSED UP. SO I'M HERE! HAPPY?
ZO.
LISTEN TO ME, YOUNG MAN. DO NOT SROW YOUR LIFE AVAY... YOU VILL NOT GET ANUZZER. I DO NOT EXPECT ZIS CHANCE MEETING IN A FLEA BAG TO TURN YOUR LIFE AROUND...
...BUT IFF I, A NAZI SS OBERSTURMBANNFUHRER CAN TURN MY LIFE AROUND, WHY NOT YOU?
NAZI SS? WHAT KIND OF CRAP IS THIS?
JA. DOT'S RIGHT, YOUNG MAN. YOU VILL REMEMBER ME.
JESUS LOVES YOU UNDT SO DO I.
HEY, LADY! WHATCHOO DOING?

UNDT ZAT GOES FOR YOUR FRIEND ELMO, TOO.
SISTER, WILL YOU COME WITH US PLEASE?
DO YOU NEED ZPIRITUAL GUIDANCE?
NO. BUT YOU DO.
SCREEECH
GET IN THE CAR.
NO.
LISTEN, YOU NAZI FREAK BUTCHER -- I'D JUST AS SOON *SHOOT* YOU RIGHT HERE, SO DON'T *TEMPT* ME. GET IN THAT CAR.
SHOOT ME.
LOOK OUT -- I'LL STUFF THE OLD NAZI IN.

YEEE-HA!
SNAP
HEAD 'EM UP--MOVE 'EM OUT!
RAWHIDE!

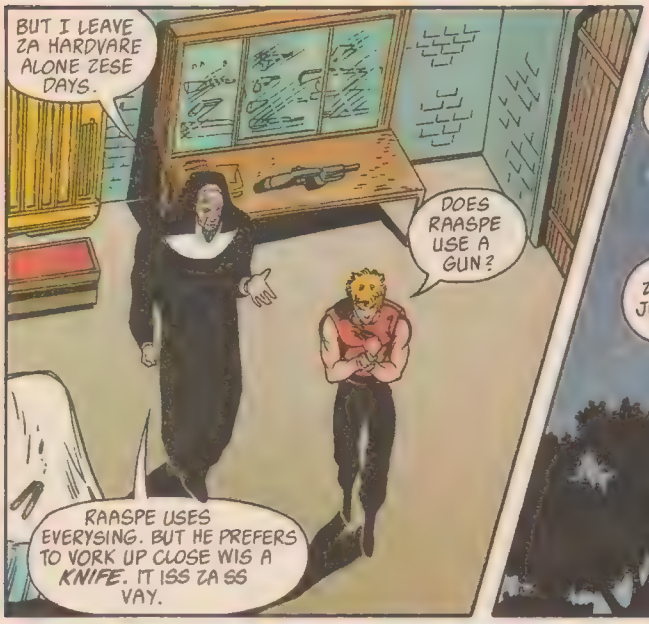
HEAD 'EM UP!
MOVE 'EM OUT!
RAWHIDE!
CRUNCH
STOP.
I'M DOING FOR YOU LIKE YOU DID FOR DAISY.
JA -- BUT ZESE MEN ARE NOT RAPISTS -- ZEY ARE ISRAELI AGENTS.

AND ZEY ARE NOT ZA VORST OF IT...
OH, YEAH? WHAT IS THE WORST OF IT?
RAASPE.
IS THIS GUY AN ORIGINAL NAZI? HE MUST BE A THOUSAND YEARS OLD!
RAASPE IS THIRTY-FIVE. HE ISS ZA ULTIMATE PRODUCT OF ZA BIO-ENGINEERING UNDT ZELECTIVE . BREEDING.
I THOUGHT THEY GAVE UP ON ALL THAT MASTER RACE BULL.
ZEY NEVER GIFF UP. NEVER. UNDT I NO LONGER TAKE ZA LIFE. SO IT ISS UP TO YOU, HERR BADGER.
NO PROBLEM.
YOU HAFF MUCH GUTS, HERR BADGER. BUT RAASPE... I ALMOST SINK HE ISS MORE THAN HUMAN.
EXCEPT HIS HEART. ZAT ISS LESS THAN HUMAN. HE HAS KILLED MANY, HERR BADGER. I, MYSELF HAFF SEEN RAASPE KILL WIS HIS BARE HANDS.
HE'S DOG FOOD.
ZA NAZIS IN BRAZIL ARE VERY IRRITATED ZAT I HAFF TAKEN ZEIR STOLEN TREASURE TO GIFF TO ZA JEWS. ZEY HAFF SENT RAASPE TO BRING ZEM MY HEAD.
WHY DON'TCHA JUST GIVE THE MONEY TO ISRAEL TO PLANT TREES OR BUY MORE TANKS FOR THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES?

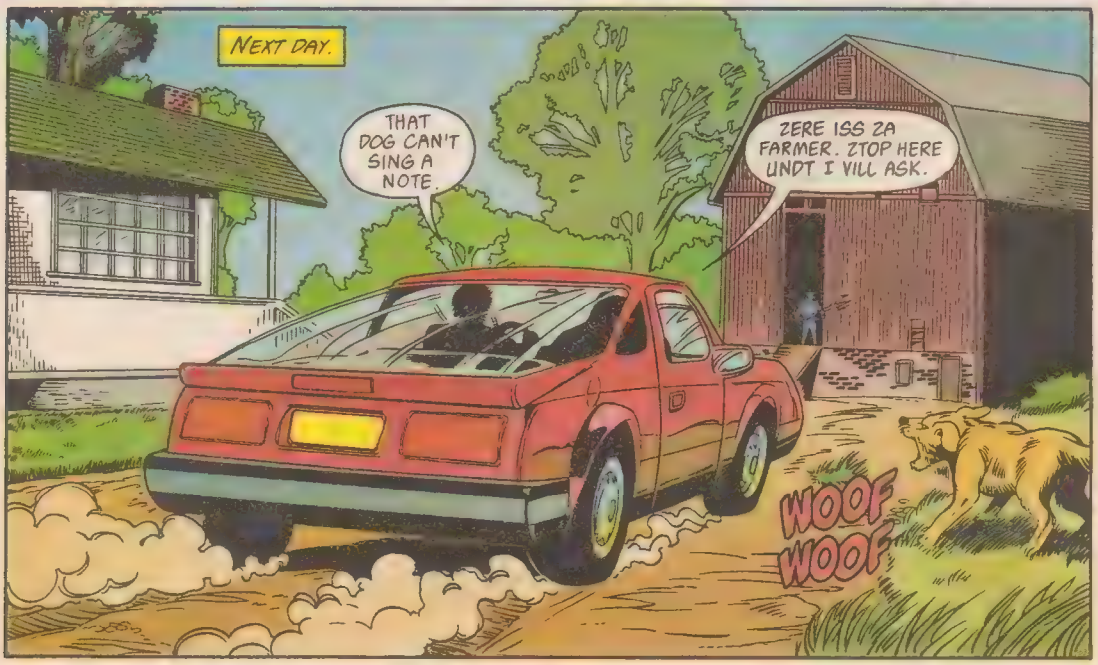
DREADSTAR™
No. 39
CROSSROADS
TIE-IN!
On sale in July from FIRST COMICS

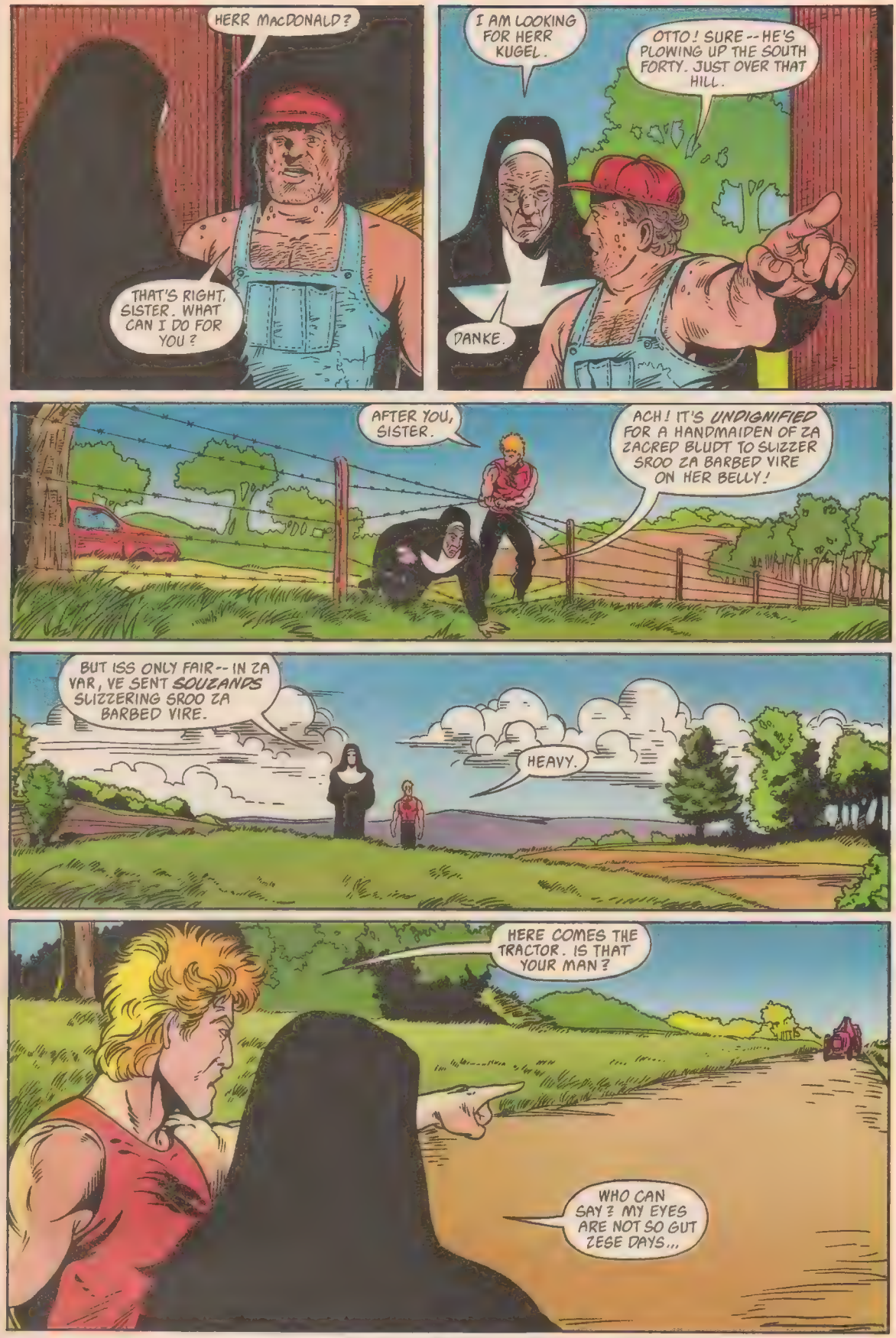
GRIM JACK
TM
No 52
CROSSROADS
TIE-IN!
On sale in July from
FIRST
COMICS

I SHOULD GIFF ZA MONEY TO ZA VERDAMMT ISRAELIS TO BUY MORE RUBBER BULLETS AND TEAR GAS? ACH, NEIN! BETTER TO GIFF IT TO ZA SURVIVING MEMBERS OF ZA RESISTANCE, SUCH AS ZA OLD JEW I SEEK.
WE COULD SUCK DOWN A COUPLE OF BREWSKIS AND SQUEEZE OFF A FEW ROUNDS.
HECKLER & KOCH-- A GUT GERMAN FIREARM!


BUT I LEAVE ZA HARDVARE ALONE ZESE DAYS.
DOES RAASPE USE A GUN?
RAASPE USES EVERYSING. BUT HE PREFERS TO VORK UP CLOSE WIS A KNIFE. IT ISS ZA SS VAY.

VHAT A PERFECT NAZI HE ISS!
WELL, GOOD NIGHT, SISTER. I'M THRASHED. TAKE A GUN TO BED-- YOU'LL SLEEP BETTER.
MUZZER ZUPERIOR JUMP ZA GUN, JA?


NEXT DAY.
THAT DOG CAN'T SING A NOTE.
ZERE ISS ZA FARMER. ZTOP HERE UNDT I VILL ASK.
WOOF WOOF


HERR MACDONALD?
THAT'S RIGHT, SISTER. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
I AM LOOKING FOR HERR KUGEL.
OTTO! SURE -- HE'S PLOWING UP THE SOUTH FORTY. JUST OVER THAT HILL.
DANKE.
AFTER YOU, SISTER.
ACH! IT'S UNDIGNIFIED FOR A HANDMAIDEN OF ZA ZACRED BLUDT TO SLIZZER SROO ZA BARBED VIRE ON HER BELLY!
BUT ISS ONLY FAIR -- IN ZA VAR, VE SENT SOUZANDS SLIZZERING SROO ZA BARBED VIRE.
HEAVY.
HERE COMES THE TRACTOR. IS THAT YOUR MAN?
WHO CAN SAY? MY EYES ARE NOT SO GUT ZESE DAYS...

WHAT IS IT? WHAT DO YOU WANT? I HAVE DONE NOTHING!
NO! PUT ZA GUN AVAY! VE HAFF NUSSING TO FEAR FROM HIM.
JUST CLIMB DOWN EASY, PAL!
WHAT DO YOU WANT, SISTER?
ARE YOU OTTO KUGEL?
YES. I'M KUGEL. WHO ARE YOU?
YOU DON'T REMEMBER ME, HERR KUGEL?
NO. SHOULD I?

NO, HERR KUGEL, PERHAPS YOU SHOULD NOT...
BANG
RAASPE!
GREETINGS, OBERSTURMBANNFUHRER! NOW YOU WILL GIVE ME THE $5 MILLION YOU STOLE FROM THE BROTHERHOOD!

OR VHAT? YOU HAFF VAYS TO MAKE ME TALK? I SINK NOT.
I HAVE WAYS, OLD QUEEN...
YOU KNOW MY WAYS...
OF COURSE. ZEY ARE ZA SAME AS MINE.
COME ON, YOUNG NAZI. LET ME SEE VHAT YOU HAFF GOT...

VHEN VAS ZA LAST TIME YOU VENT TO CONFESSION, MY SON?
UNGH!
THE MONEY, OLD QUEEN!
I'LL FIND IT ANYWAY!
VHAT DID YOU DO TO OTTO KUGEL?
WHAT DOES ONE DO WITH JEWS?
AND HOMOSEXUALS? WHAT DO WE DO WITH THEM, SISTER? AND CATHOLICS?
AGH!

YOU'RE EVERYTHING WE DESPISE... A HOMOSEXUAL, A CATHOLIC, A THIEF AND A TRAITOR...
YOU SCUM -- YOU NEVER VOULD HAFF MADE IT IN ZA OLD DAYS... UNDT I AM NOT A HOMOSEXUAL! I AM A TRANZ-SEXUAL!
YOU DARE TAUNT ME? I'M A BETTER NATIONAL SOCIALIST THAN YOU EVER WERE!
ACH! YOU ARE A VEAK LITTLE BOY LOOKING FOR AN ADOLESCENT GOD-- SOMESING SIMPLE-- SOMESING ZAT BLAMES SOMEONE ELSE FOR ALL YOUR PROBLEMS... THE PLAYSING OF SOME PATHETIC OLD FOOLS IN ZA AMAZON JUNGLE, DREAMING OF A FOURTH REICH!
WE ARE NOT DREAMING. WE HAVE MILLIONS WHO SYMPATHIZE-- WE ARE PREPARING NOW...
UNDT VHERE VILL ZIS GLORIOUS REICH ARISE? PARA-GUAY? IN ZA RAIN FOREST?
BRAZIL! ENOUGH CHIT-CHAT! THE MONEY, OR I START CUTTING-- I BEGIN WITH THE NOSE!

SLASSH
DO NOT WORRY-- I WILL FIND THE MONEY...
HEY!
WHACK

COME ON, RAASPE -- YOU AND ME.
JA! ISS GUT!
CONTINUED...

Dear Mike:

I don't write many letters. This is only the second one I've written and sent. I feel "What can one person do to change something?" Then I said to myself, "Self, don't criticize, compliment!"

I just started reading Badger. The only reason I picked up an issue was because of the Zeck cover. I then saw inside the comic that it was written by Mike Baron. "Wow," I said, "Mike Baron of Flash and Punisher?" The story turned out to be great. I was hooked. To get my Badger fix I went and bought a bunch of back issues.

Thanks, Mr. Baron, you've opened my eyes.

Jonathan Romeo
1708 Capistrano Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37922

Dear Larry:

Hot damn! The Badger is funny again. With issue #37 the much lamented silliness has returned. Vengeful buffalos, mall rangers and new age indians, the intelligent absurdity (if you can or want to call it that) has been recovered. (I was afraid it got lost along with Kid Kang and the Dire Wolf.) And the back-up story was fantastic. Who needs Clonezone when you can have the life and times of Mike Baron?

One question, though: Does Mike Baron really look like that? For some bizarre reason I pictured him as a large, leather-clad biker type, and Eric Shanower's representation was a pleasant surprise. Thanks for putting together a comic book so delightfully entertaining that it leaves one snickering and feeling happily foolish for at least a day (several days if I don't remember to take my medication).

My only complaint is: Where is Bill Reinhold? I know he was working on the Badger graphic novel — and I'm anxiously awaiting that — but is there any way at all that he'll come back to draw the Badger regularly again?

P.S. Please don't print my address as I'd rather not have Mike Baron sending me letter bombs if I've offended him somehow (or anyone else for that matter).

Joellen Spencer
[Address withheld
while I fill out the label
on this letter bomb]

*Actually, **Mike Baron** frequently is a leather-clad biker type; but he does look more or less exactly like Eric drew him. As for **Bill Reinhold** and the anxiously awaited Badger graphic novel, the latter is now available (and will have been for two months by the time this letter column appears in print), while the former is rumored to be working on another graphic novel — but it's for another company, and they can write their own hype!*

Dear Larry:

Ha ha ha, ho ho ho, he he he. Those are the sounds I make when I read Badger. Issue 37 was no exception. Badge is in a crazy, fast-paced world filled with adventure, and what does he do with his time? He takes a buffalo to a beauty salon.

The chase was great. Reminds me of something you would see in Moonlighting. Let's see more of Riley and Lamont.

The art was great. Angel and Rod are a perfect team. Are they doing any other Badger work in the near future?

Eric Buscher
11515 Mtn. Laurel Dr.
Roswell, GA 30075

If you run out right now you may still be able to pick up a

"Does Mike Baron really look like that? For some bizarre reason I pictured him as a large, leather-clad biker type..."

"I'll have you know that I bought a 'factory seconds' print of the Mona Lisa at McCrory's (a perfect reproduction, except Mona is wearing a halter top)..."

copy of ***Crossroads*** *#2, featuring Badger and Sable, and also featuring the artwork of* ***Angel Medina*** *and* ***Rod Whigham****. Coming up next month, Angel takes on* ***Dreadstar*** *#39, and in September you'll see Rod's work in* ***Team Yankee****, a six-issue weekly limited series.*

Dear Larry et al.:

I realize that everyone has their own idea of humor, but for me a Chuck Jones cartoon does it every time. It doesn't matter if it's the Roadrunner and coyotes or Tom and Jerry, his sense of wildly exaggerated comedic violence never fails to make me laugh.

"Where the Buffalo Roam" was full of the same great sight gags and slapstick violence that made those cartoons so much fun. The Texas Rangers on horseback in the mall, the buffalo ice skating and bouncing off the awning, John Falling Light as the special guest shaman, and the rah-rah daddy's girl with the non-stop dialog were all great.

The only thing that particularly bothered me was the crack about buying art at McCrory's. I'll have you know that I bought a "factory seconds" print of the Mona Lisa at McCrory's (a perfect reproduction, except Mona is wearing a halter top), and that baby hangs proudly on my living room wall right next to the clean-shaven Van Gough self-portrait. You need to develop an appreciation for fine art.

The second story was also very funny and an interesting tribute to Mike by Roger. I usually hate stories where the writer shows up as a character in the story; but after seeing John Byrne draw himself into almost every other story he's produced for the last eight years, I've grown accustomed to the idea. Anyway, Mike was funnier than John usually is when he shows up in a comic book. The art was terrific, too.

T.E. Pouncey
[Address withheld because he doesn't know where he is]

Your story about art appreciation reminds me of the time I was in a hurry and had no time Toulouse; but I was running low on fuel. So I pulled into the filling station to get Degas to make the Van Gough; but I couldn't pay for it because I had no Monet! (Who says a comic book editor can't appreciate an exhibit of impressionist art?)

Dear Larry:

Unlike Nexus, which is not only incredible but also my second favorite book behind Love and Rockets, Badger varies between issues that are truly excellent and issues that are only really outstandingly darn good. Badger #37 was the former.

Now I live a loooong way from Houston; but I have been to the Galleria. So I felt that I should write you and point out one discrepancy in your story. The Texas Rangers riding their horses through the mall was fine — happens all the time, in fact. The buffalo on ice skates wasn't unusual either — seen it several times myself. But all those Texas Rangers wearing bolo ties? Come on! *Nobody* wears bolo ties in Texas anymore. This is the '80s!

David Seigler
1629 68th
Lubbock, TX 79412

Next Month: The conclusion to "Sister Twyster!" By **Mike Baron** and **Ron Lim.**

—Rick Oliver

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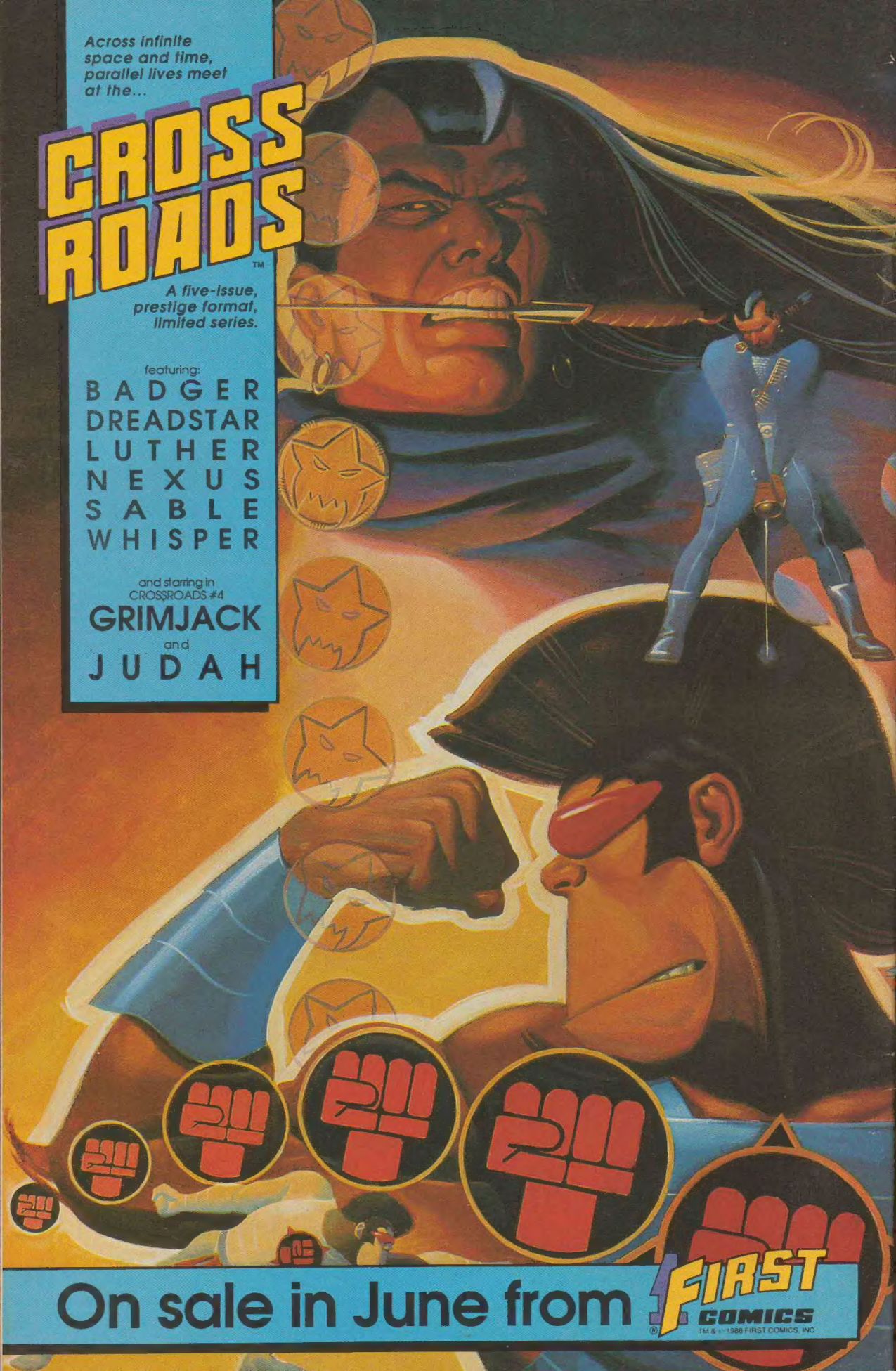
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